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CHAL-0308

Copy 5 of 5.

2 September 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Briefing of USAF Bosses on CHALICE Operations

1. On 29 August 1958, [] and the undersigned conducted a briefing on the recent [] in the office of Lt. Gen. Dean Strother. The meeting was attended by Maj. Gen. Smart, Maj. Gen. Walsh, Maj. Gen. Watson, Maj. Gen. Bates, and Col. Geary.

2. The chart showing targets covered and Chinese reaction was first briefed, followed by the same selective photos shown at the White House. All were extremely well pleased. I pointed out that the Air Force processing and [] had accomplished the film processing and all of the preliminary analysis and that since the night of 25 August HTAutomat had been working on a 24-hour basis to accomplish the full interpretation and analysis. Further, that those results were passed to the services at the same time they became available.

3. These officers were then briefed with regard to the project proposals for Russian overflights as well as the tactical coverage of China. The mission selected by the President [] and the reasons why he liked this mission best were then covered. The reaction of the officers being briefed was that in their opinion this mission was more likely to cause a protest than a mission originating [] and landing [] however, all were pleased that a mission was approved.

4. I told them that I had been informed that continued Chinese missions required persuasion on the part of Gen. Cabell and Mr. Bissell but that they were successful in gaining approval. I advised the officers that Gen. Twining had attended the meeting with the President.

5. Future plans of the project as they apply to operations out of [] were then covered. It was emphasized that if the [] mission is successful and elicits no protest, and if the same applies to the tactical missions [] the President will be briefed on the activities to date and approval will be sought for sorties from [] The chart showing typical missions under consideration was shown with emphasis placed on the short amount of time our aircraft would be under radar surveillance, as well as the importance of the target areas to be covered.

USAF review(s) completed.

This document contains information
referring to Project CHALICE

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6. Gen. Walsh commented on some previous SAC peripheral and penetration sorties and in response to a question from him was advised that the final [] would be shown to the ARC and coordinated in the normal fashion with Gen. Preston's shop. The undersigned had a later conversation with Gen. Walsh and will discuss this with Mr. Bissell.

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7. Gen. Preston was unable to attend the briefing due to pressure of Far East operations, but he was briefed by Col. Geary the previous day.

WILLIAM BURKE
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director, DPS/DCI

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